TIMELINEZ

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 03 SEP - NOV 1991 $0.45

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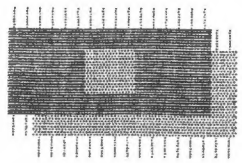
VIEW FROM RAMTOP



HAPPY HALLOWEEN & HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Yes, I did survive the Dayton, Ohio Mid-West Computer Fest. After 22 hours of straight driving, my buggy eyes were bulging towards the many products for the TIMEXsinclair community. But first, my friend (Jeff Anderson) and I had to find were our beloved computers were located. The Hara Arena was exactly that, with one exception. The arena was really made up of three (3) arenas all contained within one large building. It took Jeff and I 30 minutes just to find the T/S section. When we did, we were surprised at the size of the turn-out. Not even Zenith/Heath's setup was as large as the T/S section. Mechanical Affinity, Sharp's Inc, QUANTA's U.S.A. Sub-Librarian, Steve Spalding of Sting Graphics, T/SNUG's Don Lambert & Bob Swoger, UPDATE Magazine, Dave Bennett, etc, etc, were all present and BUSY! It was here that Jeff took the BIG JUMP from his trusty 10 year old T/S 1000 to the Multitasking, File Serving, Networking, Sinclair QL. Jeff was as proud as a father with his new born baby! My purchases were a little more elaborate. I saw and fell deeply in love with the new Miracle Systems Gold Card. The small marvel of an add-on card, fits completely within the QL's expansion slot. The Gold Card has everything the Trump Card 2 has plus lots more! In matter of fact, the manual given with the Gold Card belongs to the Trump Card. However, there is a supplemental sheet included. Here is some of the fantastic features:

DISK DENSITIES

DD - Double Density - 720 K
HD - High Density - 1.44M
ED - Extra High Density - 3.2 M

DISKETTE

DRIVE	DD	HD	ED
DD	720K	720K	720K?
HD	720K	1.44M	720K?
ED	720K	1.44M	3.2M

? = UNRELIABLE

SUB-DIRECTORIES

Hard sub-directories can be created using the MAKE_DIR command.

e.g. MAKE_DIR "FLP2_LETTERS"

After executing this command, typing "DIR FLP2_" will show amongst its output, the file "LETTERS ->" signifying that "LETTERS" is a sub-directory.

DISK DRIVE STEP RATE

The step rate is set automatically by the GOLD CARD to be 3 ms. for an 80 track drive and 6 ms. for a 40 track. This can be overridden by using "FLP_STEP". If only one parameter is given then this step rate is applied globally:

eg. FLP_STEP 12

will set the step rate on all drives to 12 ms. When 2 parameters are given, then the first is the drive number and the second, the step rate:

eg. FLP_STEP 3,6

will set FLP3_ to step at 6 ms.

RAM SIZE

RES_SIZE 896 will cause the QL to reset to give a capacity of 896K, making the system look as though there is a TRUMP CARD 768K installed.

RES_SIZE 128 is identical in operation to RES_128. Resetting to this size has two other effects; only Double Density disks can be used, and "PROT_DATE 1" is executed.

BATTERY BACKED CLOCK

The time will be maintained by the GOLD CARD when first installed after the power is switched off. Removal of the GOLD CARD from the QL causes the time to be lost. The GOLD CARD clock can be protected by using "PROT_DATE" command.

PROT_DATE 1 - In this protected state, all operations involving the clock only uses the QL's clock.

PROT_DATE 0 - is executed, which allows the GOLD CARD clock to be modified.

QL HARD-DISK EXTENSIONS

All "WIN_REXT" files are included in the GOLD CARD's ROM. To execute, just type "TK2_EXT".

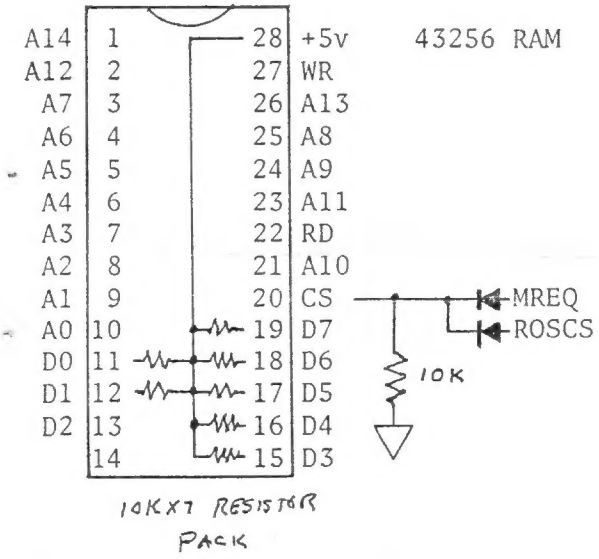
Support For
sinclair
ZX81 - spectrum - QL
and
TIMEXsinclair
1000 - 1500 - 2068
CAMBRIDGE
Z 88
computers

2/16/91
RSO

32 K RAM

32K RAM in the Cartridge Port for Timex Portugal Disc Drives.

- SPECTRUM EMULATOR
- TIMEX COMMAND CARTRIDGE SOFTWARE
- BASIC PROGRAMS



Spectrum Emulator: The Spectrum code can be loaded into RAM and then Spectrum programs run from disc. The pull-up resistors are needed for some Spectrum games. Jack Dohany's dual Interface is needed to load Spectrum programs.

To save the emulator code to disc:

```
10 OUT 244,240
20 SAVE * "SPEC" CODE 32768,16384
30 OUT 244,0
```

To LOAD the Spectrum code:

```
10 OUT 244,240
20 LOAD * "SPEC"CODE 32768,16384
30 NEW
```

Switch in the Spectrum Interface.

Timex Command Cartridges: Except for the names, Command Cartridge software uses the same procedure. You'll need to switch off the +5 volts to the cartridge during power up for the TS2068. Turn on the power and save to disc.

BASIC Programs: BASIC programs must follow the rules for AROS software as outlined in the Timex Technical Manual and elsewhere. Use of the cartridge RAM frees up 32K of HOME RAM for large arrays or data files. When loading a BASIC program into the cartridge RAM the AROS header is required. Here is an example:

```
10 OUT 244,240
20 RESTORE
30 FOR n=32768 TO 32775
40 READ x
50 POKE n,x
60 NEXT n
70 DATA 1,2,8,128,15,1,21,0
80 POKE 23635,8:POKE 23636,128:LOAD * "WP": OUT 244,0:NEW
```

Bob Orrfelt
3436 Bay Road
Redwood City, CA 94063
(415) 369 9136

POTENTIAL NEW AND OLD MEMBERS!

Please complete the application below with your $9.00 to cover membership / subscription and send to:

TIMELINEZ
P.O. BOX 1312
PACIFICA, CA 94044

ATTN: GEORGE MOCKRIDGE

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

"GEORGE MOCKRIDGE"

User group meetings are always open to the public at no charge. Attendance is highly encouraged.

NAME:_____

ADDRESS:_____

CITY:_____STATE:___ZIP:_____

PHONE:_____WORK#:_____

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT US?
FEST_____COMPUTER STORE_____

NEWSPAPER/MAGAZINE_____

MEMBER/FRIEND_____

WORK WITH A COMPUTER AT YOUR JOB?
YES_____NO_____MAKE/MODEL_____

DO YOU OWN A COMPUTER? YES_____NO_____
MAKE/MODEL (YOURS)_____

IS IT YOUR FIRST? YES_____NO_____

COMPUTER EXPERIENCE (YEARS)_____(MONTHS)_____

PROGRAMMING INTERESTS ARE?
BASIC_____ASSEMBLY_____
FORTH_____MACHINE CODE_____
PASCAL_____C COMPILER_____

KNOWLEDGE: SOFTWARE_____HARDWARE_____

LIST MAIN INTERESTS/ACTIVITIES
PROGRAMMING (BA,MC)_____GRAPHICS_____
ENTERTAINMENT/GAMES_____EDUCATION_____
BUSINESS APPLICATION_____FINANCE_____

Mini File Server BBS (MFSBBS)

Supports:	300/1200 baud at 8,N,1
Terminal:	VT52
Sysop:	Steve Nichols
Phone#:	(408) 253-2295

NOTICE

The Mini File Server BBS gives support for **TIMEX** and **Sinclair** on disc #10. SLIX is also available.

TSCPUG

TIMEXsinclair Cambridge Peninsula Users Group
311 Michelle Lane
Daly City, CA 94015
(415) 878-1773

Support for:
-TIMEXsinclair's 1000/1500/2068
-Cambridge Z88
-Sinclair's Spectrum, +128K and QL

President: George Mockridge
Host: Walt Johnson

Meetings: Third Sunday of each month, 1:00 pm
Peninsula Hospital (Sierra Room)
1783 El Camino Real
Burlingame, CA

Dates: September 15, 1991
October 19, 1991
November 17, 1991

CUTSZF/SV

TIMEXsinclair Z88freeware
Silicon Valley Users (408) 253-3175
6675 Clifford Drive
Cupertino, CA 95410-4530

Host: Bill Miller

Meetings: Third Wednesday of each month - 7:30 pm
CALL FOR MEETING LOCATION

Projects: Organizing Sinclair Information

Dates: September 18, 1991
October 16, 1991
November 20, 1991

TSQLUG/MMC

TIMEXsinclair QL Users Group
Mile High Chapter

Hosts: Curt Carlson

Meetings: Third Saturday of each month - 2:00 pm
601 S. Grant Street
Denver, CO 80209
(303) 733-4391

Dates: September 14, 1991
October 12, 1991
November 16, 1991

TSCE_Sig/TCW

TIMEXsinclair Z88freeware S.I.G.
of The Computer Workshop
6675 Clifford Drive
Cupertino, CA 95014-4530
(408) 253-3175

SIG Host: Bill Miller

Meetings: First Saturday of the month at 10:00 am
Stanford University
Jordon Hall, Building 380 (in the Quad)
Room 380C (downstairs)

Dates: September 7, 1991
October 5, 1991
November 2, 1991

IBM CAR SALES

(OR HOW NOT TO BUY MAINFRAMES)

Recently, IBM branched out into auto sales. I stopped by to see what was available, and here is the deal offered by the salesman (who used to be a DSM software engineer).

"Here's our one and only model, you have to pay for it now, but you'll get it in two years."

"It doesn't run yet, and you can't look under the hood. I'll spend the next few years working on it in your garage, and of course I'll bill you for my time."

"I see your list of options. Well, I'll include maybe a tenth of them. But then I'll toss in a load of options you didn't ask for (for which you will be billed), maybe some of them will work."

"After a few months of repair, you may be able to drive it around the block, but not as fast as I promised, and not carrying as much cargo as I promised, and I need to be in the passenger seat the whole time calling you an idiot if you don't know enough to use the screwdriver and wrench rather than the steering wheel and clutch.

"There is no driver's manual, you'll just have to figure out how to drive it by trial and error; no matter how important the trip you're trying to make is. Get this, after we fix it each time, the controls will change (some of them so radically that if you use them the car will crash) but we still won't tell you how to use them. Good luck."

"We probably should have used an engine designed in this decade, but we had so many leftover parts from the 1960s that we used them instead."

FOR SALE (Contact Editor if interested)

Mint condition, ZX Spectrum+ 128K; Interface I, II, & III; assorted microcassettes; ZX Printer with three (3) roles of silver paper; two (2) ZX Microdrives, and Spectrum books.....Make offer

Excellant condition, Rotronics WAFADrive with assorted wafers, Rainbow interface with Spectrum Mod 'B', and a bonus, a serial parallel converter especially designed to receive/transmit at different baud rates. Cables included.....Make offer

Excellant condition, Dual A&J wafer drives, assorted wafers, parallel interface & cables. Make offer

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Editors:
TSCPUG: George Mockridge
GUTSCE: Bill Miller
Mile_H: Curt Carlson

This TIMELINEZ Newsletter is a joint publication of four TIMEX Sinclair User Groups in the US.

TIMELINEZ publication will cover three issues for the year 1991. Starting in 1992, the publication rate will increse up to four/six issues (or as finances permit).

Back issues of TIMELINEZ is available. Contact your editor at:

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